



## CONCLUSIONS

Cluster 8 has met the tremendous challenge set forth by CRS to formulate reinvestment recommendations for the community. This final report which represents their views contains 45 recommendations, 18 of which have been prioritized to focus on limited resources.

Through the process Cluster 8 residents have articulated opportunities and challenges through focusing on assets that support reinvestment. They have articulated several assets reflective of the uniqueness and outstanding characteristics of their cluster.

### Unique and Outstanding Characteristics

This is overall one of Detroit's most stable and outstanding communities with numerous characteristics. Through the CRS process four major features repeat themselves:

- Cluster 8 provides entry to Detroit at points along its northern border. Board members are proud of this distinction from most other clusters and see it as an opportunity to demonstrate pride in Detroit through the use of signage and other means.
- Cluster 8 is one of Detroit's most desirable neighborhoods in which to live and raise families. It has some of the city's most solid housing stock with complementary income levels to support commercial development. Also, the majority of commercial areas are stable. Both facts are documented on current condition maps.
- One of the cluster's unique feature is a private park owned by a residents groups. Beyond the ownership feature, the park is well programmed with numerous youth activities and tends to be booked months in advance of events. This effort is indicative of how much investment residents place in the quality of life for their community.
- Several long-standing organizations are active in Cluster 8. Organizations are so numerous, it became impossible to include a description of each. This activism is clearly an important asset in the implementation of cluster recommendations, but can also be a major challenge when consensus is needed.

Residents are well informed and passionate about their vision for their community. Throughout the process, Cluster 8 residents challenged the technical assistance team, CRS core staff and each other to be focused on the entire community and its existing work as recommendations were shaped. The process, while frustrating and demanding at times, has ultimately served to document, inform, educate and inspire residents in the revitalization of Detroit neighborhoods.



## Recommendations

The 45 recommendations approved by Cluster 8 are substantial. Several themes are common throughout the recommendations and report, indicative of the Cluster's characteristics in many ways.

- Focus reinvestment primarily along existing commercial strips, maintaining the integrity of the cluster's strong residential community. Most targeted development is along existing commercial strips. Development proposed for the Brightmoor Community would tie it to new housing development.
- Government should enforce existing policies and laws. Some of these are outlined in the DMP, city ordinances, and laws, and state laws as well. This common theme runs through each issue area. The theme further suggests the importance of accountability on all community levels.
- Increase cooperative working relationships involving elected officials, police, community groups, the City of Detroit Planning and Development Department and others. Leadership from Planning and Development is suggested in same areas.

The capacity inherent in Cluster 8 assets is obvious. Several recommendations focused on existing resources and opportunities whether it be commercial areas, organizations or community activists. Cluster 8 is a "pride" filled community evident by their strong determination to maintain their residential areas; proper recognition for organizing, marketing of their unique role of serving as entry to the city; marketing of assets such as their privately own park.

As Cluster 8 promotes implementation of the recommendations, it will be well served to establish coordinating councils that bring together the leadership of its many organizations, utilizing the information contained in the report to pursue its vision for a revitalized community.